AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An assembly comprising a piece to be held in a bore and a device in which the piece is inserted for holding the piece in the bore, wherein the device comprises:

a cylindrical sleeve constructed to be inserted into the bore and held therein by engagement of its outer surface with an inner surface of the bore;

and a series of fins extending longitudinally of an inner surface of the sleeve and projecting inwardly from the inner surface of the sleeve, the fins being spaced from each other circumferentially of the sleeve with tips disposed to engage an outer surface of a piece inserted into the sleeve,

wherein the sleeve and the fins are integrally formed of resilient flexible plastic, the fins are skewed in a same circumferential direction relative to radial planes of the sleeve, the dimension of each fin along the direction of its inward projection is substantially greater than the thickness of the fin, and the flexibility of the fins is such that the fins can be readily deflected when engaged by an inserted piece, and

wherein end portions of the sleeve adjacent to the longitudinal ends of the sleeve, respectively, have an

outer diameter that increases away from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve.

2. (original) An assembly according to Claim 1, wherein the fins have longitudinal ends that face longitudinal ends of the sleeve, respectively, and wherein at least one of the longitudinal ends of the fins extends away from the respective longitudinal end of the sleeve and away from the inner surface of the sleeve.

3. (original) An assembly according to Claim 2, wherein each fin has trapezoidal longitudinal side surfaces.

4. (original) An assembly according to Claim 1, wherein the device is formed of molded plastic and further comprises a plurality of abutments projecting inwardly from the inner surface of the sleeve for engagement with ejector pins of molding apparatus.

5. (original) An assembly according to Claim 4, wherein the abutments are spaced inwardly from the longitudinal ends of the sleeve, and the sleeve has slots aligned with the abutments to permit engagement of the ejector pins with the abutments.

6. (original) An assembly according to Claim 1, wherein the piece is inserted in the device and has a

shank that engages tips of the fins and deflects the fins.

7. (original) An assembly according to Claim 6, wherein the piece is a bolt.

8. (original) An assembly according to Claim 1, wherein the longitudinal ends of the fins are spaced from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve.

9. (original) An assembly according to Claim 1, wherein the fins extend to the longitudinal ends of the sleeve.

10. (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) An assembly according to Claim ~~10~~ 1, wherein the longitudinal ends of the fins are spaced from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and said end portions have a substantially uniform inner diameter between the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and the fins.

12. (currently amended) An assembly according to Claim ~~10~~ 1, wherein the longitudinal ends of the fins are spaced from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and said end portions have an inner diameter that increases between the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and the fins.

13. (original) An assembly according to Claim 1, wherein the longitudinal ends of the sleeve are flat.

14. (currently amended) An assembly comprising a piece to be held in a bore and a device in which the piece is inserted for holding the piece in the bore, wherein the device comprises:

a cylindrical sleeve;

and a series of fins extending longitudinally of an inner surface of the sleeve and projecting inwardly from the inner surface of the sleeve, the fins being spaced from each other circumferentially of the sleeve with tips disposed to engage an outer surface of a piece inserted into the sleeve,

wherein the sleeve and the fins are integrally formed of resilient flexible plastic, the fins are skewed relative to radial planes of the sleeve, the flexibility of the fins is such that the fins can be readily deflected when engaged by an inserted piece, and each fin is tapered by having at least one longitudinal end that extends away from a corresponding longitudinal end of the sleeve and away from the inner surface of the sleeve, and

wherein end portions of the sleeve adjacent to the longitudinal ends of the sleeve, respectively, have an outer diameter that increases away from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve.

15. (original) An assembly according to Claim 14, wherein each fin has trapezoidal longitudinal side surfaces.

16. (original) An assembly according to Claim 14, wherein the fins are skewed in a same circumferential direction relative to radial planes of the sleeve and the dimension of each fin along the direction of its inward projection is substantially greater than the thickness of the fin.

17. (original) An assembly according to Claim 14, wherein the device is formed of molded plastic and further comprises a plurality of abutments projecting inwardly from the inner surface of the sleeve for engagement with ejector pins of molding apparatus.

18. (original) An assembly according to Claim 17, wherein the abutments are spaced inwardly from the longitudinal ends of the sleeve, and the sleeve has slots aligned with the abutments to permit engagement of the ejector pins with the abutments.

19. (original) An assembly according to Claim 14, wherein the longitudinal ends of the fins are spaced from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve.

20. (original) An assembly according to Claim 14, wherein the fins extend to the longitudinal ends of the sleeve.

21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended) An assembly according to Claim ~~21~~ 14, wherein the longitudinal ends of the fins are spaced from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and said end portions have a substantially uniform inner diameter between the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and the fins.

23. (currently amended) An assembly according to Claim ~~21~~ 14, wherein the longitudinal ends of the fins are spaced from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and said end portions have an inner diameter that increases between the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and the fins.

24. (original) An assembly according to Claim 14, wherein the longitudinal ends of the sleeve are flat.

25. (original) An assembly according to Claim 14, wherein the piece is inserted in the device and has a shank that engages tips of the fins and deflects the fins.

26. (original) An assembly according to Claim 25, wherein the piece is a bolt.

27. (currently amended) A combination comprising a body having a bore therein, a piece-holding device inserted in the bore, and a piece inserted in and held by the piece-holding device, wherein the piece-holding device comprises:

a cylindrical sleeve held in the bore by engagement of its outer surface with an inner surface of the bore;

and a series of fins extending longitudinally of an inner surface of the sleeve and projecting inwardly from the inner surface of the sleeve, the fins being spaced from each other circumferentially of the sleeve with tips that engage an outer surface of the piece inserted in the sleeve,

wherein the sleeve and the fins are integrally formed of resilient flexible plastic, the fins are skewed in a same circumferential direction relative to radial planes of the sleeve, the dimension of each fin along the direction of its inward projection is substantially greater than the thickness of the fin, and the fins are deflected by engagement with the inserted piece, and

wherein end portions of the sleeve adjacent to the longitudinal ends of the sleeve, respectively, have an outer diameter that increases away from the respective longitudinal ends.

28. (original) A combination according to Claim 27, wherein the fins have longitudinal ends that face longitudinal ends of the sleeve, respectively, and wherein at least one of the longitudinal ends of the fins extends away from the respective longitudinal end of the sleeve and away from the inner surface of the sleeve.

29. (original) A combination according to Claim 28, wherein each fin has trapezoidal longitudinal side surfaces.

30. (original) A combination according to Claim 27, wherein the device is formed of molded plastic and further comprises a plurality of abutments projecting inwardly from the inner surface of the sleeve for engagement with ejector pins of molding apparatus.

31. (original) A combination according to Claim 30, wherein the abutments are spaced inwardly from the longitudinal ends of the sleeve, and the sleeve has slots aligned with the abutments to permit engagement of the ejector pins with the abutments.

32. (original) A combination according to Claim 27, wherein the piece has a shank that engages tips of the fins and deflects the fins.

33. (original) A combination according to Claim 32, wherein the piece is a bolt.

34. (original) A combination according to Claim 27, wherein the longitudinal ends of the fins are spaced from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve.

35. (original) A combination according to Claim 27, wherein the fins extend to the longitudinal ends of the sleeve.

36. (cancelled)

37. (currently amended) A combination according to Claim ~~36~~ 27, wherein the longitudinal ends of the fins are spaced from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and said end portions have a substantially uniform inner diameter between the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and the fins.

38. (currently amended) A combination according to Claim ~~36~~ 27, wherein the longitudinal ends of the fins are spaced from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and said end portions have an inner diameter that increases between the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and the fins.

39. (original) A combination according to Claim 27, wherein the longitudinal ends of the sleeve are flat.

40. (currently amended) A combination comprising a body having a bore therein, a piece-holding device

inserted in the bore, and a piece inserted in and held by the piece-holding device, wherein the piece-holding device comprises:

a cylindrical sleeve;

and a series of fins extending longitudinally of an inner surface of the sleeve and projecting inwardly from the inner surface of the sleeve, the fins being spaced from each other circumferentially of the sleeve with tips disposed to engage an outer surface of a piece inserted into the sleeve,

wherein the sleeve and the fins are integrally formed of resilient flexible plastic, the fins are skewed relative to radial planes of the sleeve, the flexibility of the fins is such that the fins can be readily deflected when engaged by an inserted piece, and each fin is tapered by having at least one longitudinal end that extends away from a corresponding longitudinal end of the sleeve and away from the inner surface of the sleeve, and

wherein end portions of the sleeve adjacent to the longitudinal ends of the sleeve, respectively, have an outer diameter that increases away from the respective longitudinal ends.

41. (original) A combination according to Claim 40, wherein each fin has trapezoidal longitudinal side surfaces.

42. (original) A combination according to Claim 40, wherein the fins are skewed in a same circumferential

direction relative to radial planes of the sleeve and the dimension of each fin along the direction of its inward projection is substantially greater than the thickness of the fin.

43. (original) A combination according to Claim 40, wherein the device is formed of molded plastic and further comprises a plurality of abutments projecting inwardly from the inner surface of the sleeve for engagement with ejector pins of molding apparatus.

44. (original) A combination according to Claim 43, wherein the abutments are spaced inwardly from the longitudinal ends of the sleeve, and the sleeve has slots aligned with the abutments to permit engagement of the ejector pins with the abutments.

45. (original) A combination according to Claim 40, wherein the longitudinal ends of the fins are spaced from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve.

46. (original) A combination according to Claim 40, wherein the fins extend to the longitudinal ends of the sleeve.

47. (cancelled)

48. (currently amended) A combination according to Claim ~~47~~ 40, wherein the longitudinal ends of the fins

are spaced from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and said end portions have a substantially uniform inner diameter between the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and the fins.

49. (currently amended) A combination according to Claim ~~47~~ 40, wherein the longitudinal ends of the fins are spaced from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and said end portions have an inner diameter that increases between the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and the fins.

50. (original) A combination according to Claim 40, wherein the longitudinal ends of the sleeve are flat.

51. (original) A combination according to Claim 40, wherein the piece is a bolt.

Claims 52-87 (cancelled)

88. (new) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein the longitudinal ends of the cylindrical sleeve are substantially identical, wherein both of the longitudinal ends of the fins extend away from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and away from the inner surface of the sleeve, and wherein the sleeve is symmetrical about a transverse plane perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the sleeve and equi-distant from the longitudinal ends of the sleeve.

89. (new) An assembly according to claim 14, wherein the longitudinal ends of the cylindrical sleeve are substantially identical, wherein both of the longitudinal ends of the fins extend away from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and away from the inner surface of the sleeve, and wherein the sleeve is symmetrical about a transverse plane perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the sleeve and equi-distant from the longitudinal ends of the sleeve.

90. (new) A combination according to claim 27, wherein the longitudinal ends of the cylindrical sleeve are substantially identical, wherein both of the longitudinal ends of the fins extend away from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and away from the inner surface of the sleeve, and wherein the sleeve is symmetrical about a transverse plane perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the sleeve and equi-distant from the longitudinal ends of the sleeve.

91. (new) A combination according to claim 40, wherein the longitudinal ends of the cylindrical sleeve are substantially identical, wherein both of the longitudinal ends of the fins extend away from the respective longitudinal ends of the sleeve and away from the inner surface of the sleeve, and wherein the sleeve is symmetrical about a transverse plane perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the sleeve and equi-distant from the longitudinal ends of the sleeve.